

COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Council Committee of the Whole met on January 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. with Council President Neil presiding. Members of Council present were Ms. Arndt, Mr. Boggerty, Ms. Hall (via Webex), Mr. Lewis (out at 8:33 p.m), Mr. Anderson, Dr. Pillsbury, Mr. Rocha, and Dr. Sudler (via Webex, out at 8:06 p.m.). Mayor Christiansen was also present. Civilian members present for their Committee meetings were Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Lewis (*Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee*), Mr. Garfinkel, and Mr. Shevock (via Webex) (*Legislative, Finance, and Administration*).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Rocha moved for adoption of the agenda, seconded by Mr. Boggerty, and unanimously carried.

Review of the Booted and Suited (Bobby Wilson, CEO and Founder)

Mr. Bobby Wilson, CEO and Founder, and Ms. Deniera Gibson, Marketing Director, reviewed the presentation entitled “Booted and Suited”.

Responding to Dr. Pillsbury, Mr. Wilson stated that they would have two shifts, a morning and evening shift, and that it would consist of two managers and himself overseeing the project. He noted that they have several volunteers who would be on probation and from the court system. He added that those volunteers would be involved in the community service on the project. He mentioned that in the budget, both managers would be paid \$500, and he would be paid \$1,000 overlooking the project weekly.

Responding to Dr. Pillsbury, Mr. Wilson stated that he would be working around the clock, and as long as his managers were on the ground, he would be working.

Responding to Dr. Pillsbury, Mr. Wilson stated that he was responsible for his business, U.S. Veteran Builder.

Responding to Dr. Pillsbury, Mr. Wilson stated that he would divide his time with his staff members and that \$1,000 would be broken down with his staff’s support as well.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Mr. Wilson explained that the Booted and Suited program would be part of a larger workforce development initiative. Participants would receive training in cleanup and other entry-level jobs, with opportunities to move into union careers. He mentioned meeting with a labor union and plans to meet with the Bricklayers Union, aiming to partner with multiple unions to create career pathways. The program also emphasizes building relationships with individuals returning from prison to help them successfully reintegrate into the community.

Responding to Ms. Arndt, Mr. Wilson stated that the program was pursuing additional funding sources, with the intention of leveraging its current success to secure increased financial support. He also noted that a grant writer, who has successfully obtained millions of dollars in funding for a similar program in Wilmington, was working on grant applications to expand funding for the initiative.

Responding to Mr. Neil, Mr. Wilson clarified that he was looking to get Booted and Suited established in Dover.

Responding to Mr. Neil, Mr. Wilson clarified that the program already had a ready and available workforce that could be integrated. He noted that they operated a Saturday academy at their facility and have made investments in community-serving locations on Lookerman Street, including a training center on South Little Creek Road.

Mr. Wilson provided the committee with a signed petition (**Attachment #1**).

Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Delaware, Inc. (Councilman Boggerty and Anya Lindsey-Jenkins, Chief Executive Officer)

Councilman Boggerty, Ms. Anya Lindsey-Jenkins, Chief Executive Officer, and Dr. Vilicia Cade, Treasurer, reviewed the presentation entitled “Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Delaware, Inc”.

Responding to Mr. Anderson, Ms. Lindsey-Jenkins stated that they planned to continue to work with the Capital School District and plan to have their own vehicle for transportation to ensure that young individuals could get home safely in the evenings.

Responding to Mr. Anderson, Dr. Cade stated that the board has had no discussions regarding securing bonds for financing at the moment.

Responding to Mr. Anderson, Ms. Lindsey-Jenkins stated that much of their funding progress has come through grassroots efforts, including collaboration with senators, community members, and direct community outreach to share their vision and build public support. She added that they were open to additional funding opportunities and external consideration moving forward.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Lindsey-Jenkins clarified that they serve children from eight to eighteen years old, and although that is a wide range, they never mix the age groups. She mentioned that the specific media hub would focus on the older teens (**Attachment #2**).

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Lindsey-Jenkins stated that their organization has maintained a consistent high school program for the past five years, primarily serving older students. She noted that mentoring older youth can be more challenging, so the program has emphasized group mentoring, workforce readiness, and career preparation. She highlighted the success of their Beyond School Walls program, which has been operating at Howard High School. Over the last four years, the program has supported long-term student engagement, and seventeen youth graduated to college last year, marking the first full year that they completed four years in the program. She shared that their goal was to expand Beyond School Walls to Dover, describing it as their most successful program to date. The initiative focused on group mentoring, workforce readiness, and career training, and included plans to establish a safe community hub where mentors and youth could connect and feel supported.

Network Connect Presentation (Councilman Boggerty and Cierra Hall-Hipkins, Executive Director)

Councilman Boggerty, Ms. Cierra Hall-Hipkins, Executive Director, and Mr. Nathan McAllister, Program Development Manager, reviewed the Network Connect Presentation.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Hall-Hipkins stated that there is continued participation in the Special Olympics.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Ms. Hall-Hipkins stated that their organization has modeled a program after the Special Olympics and operated a race camp in Wilmington that serves young people impacted by trauma. She noted that the camp was free of charge, with funding secured through external sponsors. She shared that the program served 50 youth last summer, and the previous summer included participation from the entire Red Clay Consolidated School District. The camp focuses on teaching athletics, mental health recovery tools (not limited to substance use), and academics. She also highlighted monthly parent engagement activities and race days, where youth would compete alongside their parents.

Ms. Cierra Hall-Hipkins and Mr. Nathan McAllister provided the committee with the Network Connect 2024 Annual Report (**Attachment #3**).

Council Reports – December 2025

First District

Dr. Pillsbury reported that she had participated in the Christmas activities in December and that she was limited in getting around because of her inability to drive, but noted that she would come to anything that could be arranged.

Mr. Rocha reported that with the holidays and venturing out for Christmas activities, he did not have anything to report on.

Second District

Ms. Hall reported that she participated in the Legislative Summit with Spotlight Delaware to discuss items that the state government needed to understand about what their particular needs were locally, as compared to other parts of the state. She noted that the following day, she was able to participate with the Women’s Legislative Caucus at Legislative Hall to speak on issues pertaining to homeless women in the local area and plans to address those concerns. She also added that she had several constituents reach out, and she provided answers to those emails.

Mr. Lewis reported that he had nothing significant to report in the Second District with the holidays, but he was following up on some complaints from constituents regarding code enforcement matters in the Stoney Creek development and crime issues over on Orchard Avenue and Stoney Creek.

Third District

Ms. Arndt reported that, similar to her colleagues, it was fairly quiet in the Third District. She attended holiday events and public events, including the Delmarva Blood Bank and an event for the Dover Volunteer Fire Department.

Fourth District

Mr. Anderson reported that he attended the Dover Volunteer Fire Department event and noted that several individuals who have saved lives should be recognized, adding that they deserve broader public recognition. He also attended various Christmas events, including one hosted by the Inner City Cultural League. He highlighted the upcoming Economic Breakfast with the Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce being held on January 14th and the upcoming Annual Chili Cook-Off to benefit youth and after-school programs at People's Community Center. He noted that there were various constituent meetings to help individuals connect in different ways to get the necessary help with shelter and other items. He expressed gratitude toward the staff for the replacement of the safety fence at Silver Lake Boulevard and stated that residents were pleased with the replacement. He also expressed appreciation to Senator Paradee for assistance with the community transportation funding, as well as to the Public Works Department for completing urgent downtown water and wastewater utility replacements.

Dr. Sudler reported receiving multiple calls regarding sewer line infrastructure issues in the Lincoln Park area near Circle Road, noting that Ms. Barry and approximately five to six other property owners had incurred high costs due to a discrepancy between the city's and private sewer line responsibilities. He is gathering information to share with the Public Works Department to explore possible accommodations and prevent future issues. He also reported concerns about concrete and asphalt crushing within the city, which he forwarded to the Code Enforcement Department. He relayed community inquiries about the status of the Civic Arena project to City Council and the City Clerk's Office. Additionally, he noted his ongoing work with Peer-to-Peer Recovery and Treatment organizations, community cleanup efforts in Downtown Dover, and coordination with the State's Public Safety Mobile Unit and the Mayor's Opioid Task Force on outreach initiatives.

At-Large

Mr. Boggerty reported that he had spent December and the latter part of November touching base with grassroots organizations, such as the presentations that were presented, and he met with constituents regarding the pedestrian safety ordinance and some concepts to consider moving forward, and how to address that, and over the holidays, assisted constituents with places to stay and with giving food.

Council President Neil

Council President Neil reported that he attended Wreaths Across America at Bally's Dover Casino Resort in December and Tracy Harvey's retirement party in January. He served as a panelist on the Construction and Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals with Chairman Boggerty and Mr. Rocha. He noted receiving and responding to multiple emails opposing the traffic safety ordinance, engaged with a group proposing the Civic Ice Arena at Schutte Park, and informed Dover Motor Speedway officials that the Dover Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) denied a traffic study for the Leipsic Road corridor due to rapid apartment development.

He also shared that he provided a tribute to the late former Council President William Hare for the Delaware State News, with the article written by Mike Finney, and noted that funeral arrangements were pending, with a ceremony expected in the spring.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee met with Chairwoman Arndt presiding.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Rocha moved for adoption of the agenda, seconded by Dr. Pillsbury, and unanimously carried.

Review of Revised Active Recreation Plan – The Enclave Apartments: Revised Walker Road Apartments (Dawn Melson-Williams, Principal Planner) (Property of 6.08 acres +/- located on the north side of Walker Road and west of Independence Boulevard, as owned by Dover Synergy Group, LLC. Planning Reference: Site Plan S-26-03)

Ms. Dawn Melson-Williams, Principal Planner, reviewed the background and analysis regarding the review of Revised Active Recreation Plan – The Enclave Apartments: Revised Walker Road Apartments.

Staff recommended approval of the Active Recreation Plan with the provided comments and conditions.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Ms. Melson-Williams stated that the original plan was submitted a few years prior, and the overall layout was slightly smaller with a similar number of units. She noted that the site was partially wooded, requiring careful consideration of tree clearing, and explained that the decision reflected a balancing act and a shift in a different direction.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Ms. Melson-Williams stated that the project is scheduled for a public hearing before the Planning Commission on January 20th and that no written correspondence had been received to date. She explained that public notice requirements include a site posting, a legal advertisement in the local newspaper, and mailed notices to property owners within 200 feet. She added that the applicant has completed the required notices and that any objections would be addressed during the January 20th public hearing.

Responding to Dr. Sudler, Ms. Melson-Williams stated that the applicant was responsible for mailing the notice and providing proof of mailing, noting that certified mail was not required, though some applicants chose to use it. She added that they have to prove to them that the notice was mailed to the mailing list of adjacent property owners that the city provided to them based on the current tax records.

Mr. Neil moved to accept staff recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson and unanimously carried.

Ms. Arndt moved for adjournment of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee meeting, hearing no objection the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE, FINANCE, AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee met with Chairman Anderson presiding.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Neil requested that Item #1, Review of The People's Community Center Economic Development Fund Application, be removed from the agenda.

Ms. Arndt moved for adoption of the agenda as amended, seconded by Dr. Sudler, and unanimously carried.

Review of Donny Legans Economic Development Fund Application (Councilwoman Arndt, and David S. Hugg, III, City Manager)

Councilwoman Arndt, Mr. David S. Hugg, III, City Manager, and Mr. Donny Legans reviewed the proposed Economic Development Fund Application.

Staff recommended approval of the grant by the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee in the amount of \$50,000.

Mr. Lewis stated that he voted against the introduced economic development application because he believed the funds derived from the sale of city-owned properties should be distributed by the public rather than by the council. He expressed concerns about the creation of the Economic Development Fund but emphasized that his vote was not personal, commending Mr. Legans for the longevity and success of his business in the City of Dover.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Legans clarified that the HVAC upgrades were not for the main building but for a smaller structure that was originally a shipping container converted into a bar and currently lacks an HVAC system. He explained that the container's interior temperature mirrors outside conditions and that installing a simple mini-split system would allow the space to be used for additional events.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Legans stated that he would be interested in providing transportation and noted that the Capital Improvement Plan includes a potential opportunity for micro-transportation.

Mr. Boggerty stated that Mr. Legans has been a positive influence on the city, noting that economic growth often depends on places where people can gather after work, which Mr. Legans has provided. He added that Mr. Legans employs residents, including those seeking second-chance employment, and has succeeded in a challenging business environment. He emphasized that this aligns with the city's economic development and reinvestment goals to help change the city's narrative and highlighted the many positive places within the community.

Ms. Bonnie Pettington, a Dover resident, stated that she lives across the street from the Rail Haus and initially had concerns about patrons parking in the alley near her home. She noted that this is no longer an issue, crediting Mr. Legans for improvements in the area and for bringing the community together. She encouraged council to allow Mr. Legans to enhance the property, stating that it would benefit the community and attract more people to the city.

Mr. Cameron Llewellyn, 117 West Reed Street, stated that his business performed much of the construction work for Rail Haus. He explained that installing sod over only a few inches of topsoil caused drainage issues, with water pooling on the surface, leaving the area functioning more like a parking lot than grass. He noted that the proposed engineered grasses would allow for proper grading and improved drainage. He also stated that installing air conditioning would make the converted shipping container usable again.

Mr. Rocha stated that installing grass would enhance the area, noting that it was a high-traffic location where seasonal improvements would support outdoor activities throughout the year. He expressed his full support for the proposal presented.

Dr. Sudler stated that Mr. Legans is doing an excellent job, particularly in the Fourth District, and served as a strong model for other businesses. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Legans' investment in the City of Dover and his commitment to serving the community.

Mr. Rocha stated that as downtown development progresses, particularly along Loockerman Street by 2030 or when completed, there would be a clear connection between the beer garden and Loockerman Street. He noted that the development would extend toward Mr. Legans' location and be supported by increased foot traffic, as the site was part of the downtown district.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Legans stated that the project could be completed during the winter and estimated it would take about ten days to remove the old surface, level the area, install nail boards, and deliver materials. He noted they were exploring using the DE Turf Sports Complex to reduce costs and inquired about available old turf, as Fifer's Farm had done with their area, but was informed by Ms. Linda Parkowski that all the old turf had been used. He acknowledged that while using old turf could save some money, the project would likely require purchasing new turf, which was already accounted for in the budget.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Legans stated that he did not seek a loan from a bank or credit union. He noted that in 2025, they made a significant investment in a tent for the ceiling to protect the area from weather elements, such as rain, since they did not have sufficient funds for the grounds.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Legans clarified that their capital funds were sufficient and that they were using operational funds to do additional work. He explained that those funds would be coordinated with their current bank account to ensure the project's completion, and any overages would be covered.

Mr. Rocha moved to accept staff recommendations for the approval of the grant by the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee in the amount of \$50,000. The motion was seconded by Dr. Pillsbury.

Mr. Anderson stated that he supported the application based on its significant community impact. He explained that while economic development funds were not available for every business, this fund was created with community impact as a key criterion, which the for-profit business clearly met. He noted that the business has positively supported nonprofits, helped other businesses get started, and served as an economic incubator. He emphasized that the Economic Development Fund was established to reinvest proceeds from the sale of city-owned properties, particularly in Garrison Oak, back into economic development, job creation, workforce development, and community improvement, rather than absorbing the funds into the general budget and losing their long-term impact.

Mr. Lewis stated that he would abstain from voting rather than vote no. He explained that his concern was that the funds could be diverted into the general fund and potentially used to cover a budget deficit instead of raising taxes. He added that he would take the same approach with any future applications seeking Economic Development Fund support and noted that, given the current budget, the city could face a deficit.

Mr. Rocha moved to accept staff recommendations for the approval of the grant by the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee in the amount of \$50,000. The motion was seconded by Dr. Pillsbury, carried by a roll call vote of eight (8) yes (Hall, Boggerty, Pillsbury, Arndt, Rocha, Neil, Shevock, Anderson), two (2) abstentions (Lewis and Garfinkel), and one (1) absent (Sudler).

Evaluation of Bids – Silver Lake Dam Repairs (Jason Lyon, Director of Water and Wastewater)

Mr. Jason Lyon, Director of Water and Wastewater, reviewed the background and analysis of the evaluation of bids for the Silver Lake Dam Repairs.

Staff recommended awarding the contract to Mar-Allen Concrete Products, Inc, for the Silver Lake Dam Repairs, request for quote #26-0009WW, for the amount of \$128,282.64.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Lyon stated that the bidders explained that price increases were due to rising equipment costs. He noted this occurred with many projects and added that there were only two bidders, as finding additional companies capable of this type of work in the area was difficult, giving the bidders limited competition. Mr. Lyon explained that the funds being used came from savings in the streets program, which could have been returned to the general fund, but were recommended by his team to be applied toward the necessary repairs.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Lyon stated that he did not attempt to apply for assistance through any agencies.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Lyon stated that he would look into the other agencies, such as the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), that were responsible for dam safety repairs.

Mr. Lewis stated that agencies such as the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administer a national dam safety program and provide grants and technical assistance to support dam repairs at the state and local levels. He added that he would not support the bid, suggesting that Mr. Lyon could seek funding through those grant programs.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Lyon stated that he had not researched that type of assistance but appreciated the information being brought to his attention. He noted that other federal grants they have received typically took two to three years to be awarded. While he was willing to look into the grant options, he emphasized that the repairs should be completed promptly.

Responding to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Lyon explained that the Silver Lake dam undergoes an annual inspection by a professional engineer, who rated the urgency of repairs based on potential impact, and noted that those particular repairs did not require immediate action.

Mr. Rocha appreciated Mr. Lewis for identifying the grant opportunity and noted that the repairs were part of ongoing maintenance that would benefit the city. He acknowledged that the work needed to be done and made a motion to accept the staff recommendation, emphasizing that delaying could result in higher costs, and recommended awarding the contract to Mar-Allen Concrete Products for the Silver Lake Dam repairs.

Mr. Rocha moved to accept the staff recommendation to award the contract to Mar-Allen Concrete Products, Inc. for the services and repairs for the Silver Lake dam. The motion was seconded by Dr. Pillsbury.

Responding to Mr. Bobby Wilson, Mr. Lyon stated that he had not reached out to DC Water.

Responding to Mr. Wilson, Mr. Lyon stated that they coordinated with the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) for the dam inspection program. He noted that a state inspector, who reviewed all dams in Delaware, recommended using the State Office of Supplier Diversity to identify companies qualified to perform the necessary repairs.

Mr. Wilson suggested reaching out to other municipalities that have experience with similar projects, as this could help identify additional qualified bidders.

Mr. Rocha moved to accept the staff recommendation to award the contract to Mar-Allen Concrete Products, Inc. for the services and repairs for the Silver Lake dam. The motion was seconded by Dr. Pillsbury and carried by a roll call vote of nine (9) yes (Hall, Boggerty, Pillsbury, Arndt, Rocha, Neil, Shevock, Garfinkel, Anderson), one (1) no (Lewis), and one absent (Sudler).

Street and Alley Rating Overview (Jason Lyon, Director of Water and Wastewater)

Mr. Jason Lyon, Director of Water and Wastewater, reviewed the proposal for the Street and Alley Rating Overview.

This item was informational, and committee action was not required.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Lyon stated that in 2017, when the system was first installed, a quality control audit (QA/QC) was performed. He noted that roads could deteriorate or change at different rates, so if a road was last evaluated in 2017, conditions might have changed since then, or the road might degrade differently than neighboring streets. That made the ongoing quality control audit (QA/QC) challenging. However, at the time of installation, the system was evaluated as the individual conducted his assessments.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Lyon clarified that after the installation and evaluation of the system in 2017, they did not have an additional audit.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Lyon stated that the next audit would be in 2027.

Responding to Mr. Garfinkel, Mr. Lyon clarified that the roads are scheduled to be reevaluated in 2027. He respectfully disagreed with him, noting that after driving the roads, he observed that Bicentennial Village had significantly more transverse cracking compared to Freedom Street and Liberty Street. He explained that cul-de-sacs experience less wear because they do not have the same through traffic as regular roads. He added that the road had longitudinal cracking but overall less damage than other roads.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Mr. Lyon stated that the snow removal process was consistent on all streets. He explained that the main concern was not the snow removal itself, but the effects of the freeze-thaw cycle during snowfall, which could worsen cracking in the roads.

Responding to Mr. Rocha, Mr. Lyon noted that he did not want to speak on behalf of the snow removal team, but stated that an internal conversation about the issue could certainly take place.

Proposed Ordinance #2025-14 – Amending Chapter 22 – Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I – In General, by adding Sec. 22-66 – Lemon Housing Protection (Council President Neil and Councilman Rocha)

Council President Neil and Mr. Rocha reviewed the background and analysis of the Proposed Ordinance #2025-14 – Amending Chapter 22 – Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I – In General, by adding Sec. 22-66 – Lemon Housing Protection.

Staff recommended forwarding Proposed Ordinance #2025-14 to council for approval.

Responding to Ms. Arndt, Mr. Rocha stated that buyers are generally informed about inspections, though he was unsure whether the practice was specific to Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) or applied more broadly. In Ms. Butcher's case, he noted that the realtor ordered a walkthrough inspection, possibly assuming she could not afford a more comprehensive option. He explained that the proposed ordinance would ensure potential buyers were informed of the

different types of inspections available and allowed to choose based on cost. Even if a buyer could only afford a walkthrough inspection, they would at least be aware of the type of inspection they were selecting, rather than discovering it at closing after purchasing the home. He emphasized that the information would be especially beneficial for first-time homebuyers, and that the proposed ordinance would provide that transparency.

Responding to Ms. Arndt, Mr. Neil stated that Ms. Butcher's situation involved a cover-up by a house flipper. He explained that disclosure requirements differ because homeowners who have lived in a house must disclose known problems, whereas a flipper who has not lived in the home could claim they were unaware of any issues. As a result, problems could be concealed, such as termite damage or other defects. He noted that Federal Housing Administration (FHA) inspections only required certain items for approval, which allowed issues to be hidden; for example, a hole in the roof may be patched and disclosed as patched, but not necessarily repaired. In Ms. Butcher's case, she stated that there was water damage that had been covered with a rug. He added that if all existing problems had been properly disclosed and reviewed, Ms. Butcher would not have been required to sign off on the purchase. Going forward, he stated that buyers would be required to sign off on all disclosed issues so no one could later claim the buyer was unaware and responsible for the problems. He emphasized that this had nothing to do with Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) versus the open market, as the law applied to everyone. However, he noted that it disproportionately affected individuals with limited financial resources, particularly those who relied on Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) loans because they could not afford the down payments required in the open market.

Responding to Mr. Boggerty, Mr. Neil clarified that there was no difference in standards, as all existing real estate industry documents and requirements were incorporated into the process. If those requirements changed, they would automatically be built into the proposed ordinance, including disclosure requirements. He explained that when an individual has never lived in a home, such as a flipper, they may state they were unaware of plumbing or electrical issues if those problems were not identified during inspection or appraisal. He noted that appraisal reports stated that certain deficiencies must be corrected, and if they were not, the buyer should not receive the loan. He explained that the purpose of the measure was to take the appraisal report and require the buyer to acknowledge which issues they accepted or understood before purchasing the home, including situations where the buyer believed they could address the repairs themselves. That ensured buyers fully understood what they were getting into at the time of purchase, since there was no recourse after closing. He emphasized that the proposed ordinance acted as a preventative safeguard by providing buyers with as much information as possible. He added that the ordinance incorporated all current real estate industry requirements into law, and if those requirements changed in the future, the ordinance would automatically reflect those changes to maintain the same protections for buyers.

Responding to Mr. Boggerty, Mr. Neil stated that the document required under the ordinance was the same document presented at closing, but it would require the buyer to review it line by line and check off each item to confirm full awareness of its contents. He noted that the ordinance included a penalty provision stating that if an individual failed to comply with the ordinance, they would no longer be permitted to do business in the City of Dover.

Mr. Faust stated that when he purchased his home in 2002, he had a walkthrough inspection performed by a highly recommended inspector. He explained that the inspection covered only items that were visible and accessible, not concealed issues. As an example, the inspector reported that the insulation was in good condition, but a cracked heater block was later discovered, which the homeowner had to replace. He noted that he was not informed that there was no insulation in the house and was told that if problems were concealed and not visible during the inspection, the buyer had no recourse. He added that even if the law had changed since 2002, when issues are concealed and not identified by the inspector, there was nothing the buyer could do.

Ms. Arndt stated that she was not understanding the issue well enough to make an informed decision, so she would be abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Neil moved to recommend the adoption of Proposed Ordinance #2025-14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rocha and carried with two (2) abstentions (Arndt and Pillsbury), and two (2) absent (Sudler and Lewis).

Mr. Anderson moved for adjournment of the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee meeting, hearing no objection the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Mr. Neil moved for adjournment of the Council Committee of the Whole meeting, hearing no objection the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Fred A. Neil
Council President

Attachments

Attachment #1 – Booted and Suited Petition

Attachment #2 – Big Brothers Big Sisters Youth Enrichment Center

Attachment #3 – Network Connect – 2024 Annual Report

- 13 Jacob Bond BondJacob533@gmail.com community
- 14 Joseph C Waters fishington@gmail.com community
- 15 Amber Embert Aembert@icloud.com community
- 16 Jonte Fuller fullerjonte@yahoo.com community
- 17 Lauren Tinsley Ltinsley@acfnw.com A Center for mental Wellness
- 18 Ashley Robinson theweddingboutique302@gmail.com Business
- 19 Gloria CARTwright ~~TOP NITCH Sewing~~ cum gJCART45@yahoo.com Business
- 20 Gary Knox knoxboy4@aol.com Business
- 21 Carlito Gutierrez Carlito.GutierrezJL@yahoo.com community
- 22 Eddy Seger eseger@crtheater.org community
- 23 Sami Seger anselnurse30e@verizon.net community
- 24 Jim Caruso Angelo's Pizzas 20.W.LockermanSt.
- 25 Mike Caruso Angelo's Pines 1010@do.com. 20.W.LockermanSt.
- 26 Bryan Bailey James Sloan Sr. barber 211 West Lockerman St.
- 27 Arthur P. Hageberg Woodcrest Dev. Pomsl@comcast.net
- 28 Reese Corbett House of Coffi reese.caroline444@gmail.com
- 29 Jayden Smith The House of coffi JaydenGotStyle234@gmail.com community
- 30 Nia Gillette niabimn@gmail.com
- 31 Theresa Owens stonerail@yahoo.com business
- 32 Jewell Brooks Sha Scrubz & Apparel business
- 33 Teanette Wilson US Veteran Builder Community
- 34 Donnie Wilson Union Baptist Church Simon Gede

PETITION
SAFER, GREENER, CLEANER
Ambassadors
Dover Delaware

Please sign for the full time **Booted & Suited** workforce. Boots on the ground service to keep our community clean

	Name	email	community/Business
16.			<i>Celena Investment</i>
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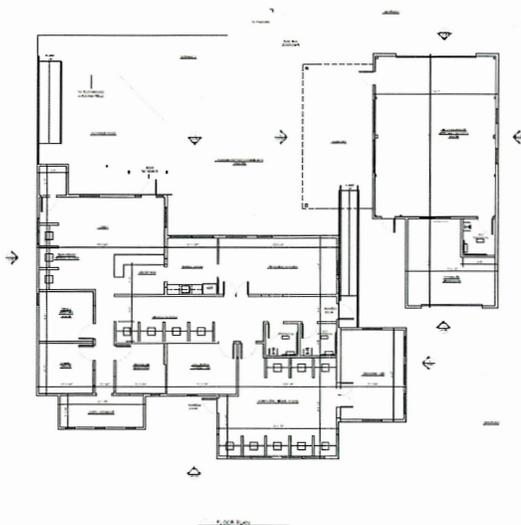


Introducing Big Brothers Big Sisters Youth Enrichment Center:

Increasing positive impact on Delaware's Youth

We BELIEVE in the transformational power of mentorship! The exchange of knowledge and experiences between mentors and mentees creates a nurturing environment where dreams are encouraged, and aspirations are realized. Ultimately, youth mentoring cultivates a generation of empowered, resilient, and confident individuals ready to make a positive difference in their communities and the world.

The YEC will provide an open play area with a playground and natural playscape space, covered picnic pavilions, and a basketball court. The indoor facility will include a Learning Lab, a space for tutoring, computers, and homework help; a Teaching Kitchen for nutrition education and cooking demonstrations; a College & Career Lab to aid youth with standardized test preparation, internships, and post-secondary education assistance; a Media Hub that will feature computers and media equipment for podcasting, video and recording production, and STEM activities; and a Multi-purpose Activity Room that will handle program overflow/conferences.



This facility will allow BBBSDE to serve the whole child, providing free resources to students without other access to outside assistance for test preparation, tutoring, and STEM learning; offering summer camps during the long days when school is out, and parents must continue to go to work; workforce development programming for older youth and the esteem-boosting and world expanding opportunity to connect in a meaningful way with a caring and trusted adult mentor. BBBSDE knows that when our youth are well supported, they can reach their future goals.

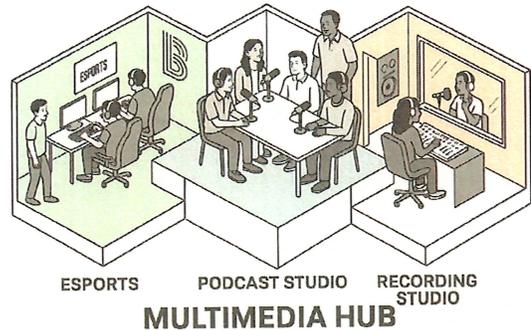
The YEC will act as a central gathering space for activities and training for youth in the community. At the YEC, BBBSDE will be able to facilitate essential connections urgently needed for youth; BBBSDE seeks to provide youth with a space where they feel like they belong and can find new friends, participate in opportunities that expand their worldview and make strides toward positive life outcomes. The building will also become BBBSDE's main office and state-wide headquarters.

“The BIG B” - Multimedia Hub

Bold Ideas. Big Futures

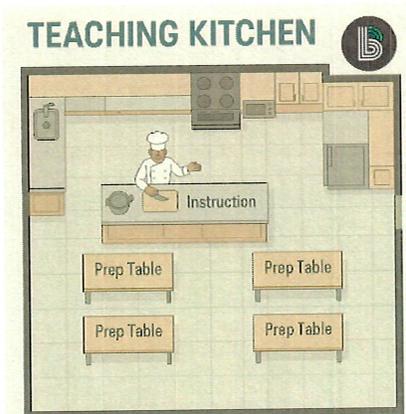
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware’s **Multimedia Hub**, **The BIG B** will provide youth with access to a podcast studio, recording studio, and an esports center, creating a unique space for learning, creativity, and future career pathways. The podcasting and recording studios will allow young people to express themselves through storytelling, music, and spoken word while gaining hands-on technical skills in audio production, editing, and content creation. These activities help young people build communication skills, confidence, and discipline, while also introducing them to industries that can offer long-term opportunities.

The **esports center** will serve as a major draw for at-risk youth, tapping into their interest in gaming and transforming it into a structured, skill-building experience. Colleges across the country are increasingly recruiting for esports teams and offering scholarships, making competitive gaming a legitimate pathway to higher education. Through the center, youth can develop teamwork, strategy, leadership, and digital literacy skills that are valuable both in and out of gaming. By training, competing, and even streaming their gameplay, participants will build portfolios that can be used in recruitment for collegiate esports programs.



Beyond future opportunities, the Multimedia Hub provides a **safe and engaging environment** where youth are empowered to create, collaborate, and explore new passions. It connects their personal interests with positive, structured experiences while offering them exposure to pathways in technology, media, and higher education. In this way, the Multimedia Hub not only keeps youth engaged in safe spaces but also equips them with real-world skills and opportunities to succeed.

Teaching Kitchen & Community Garden

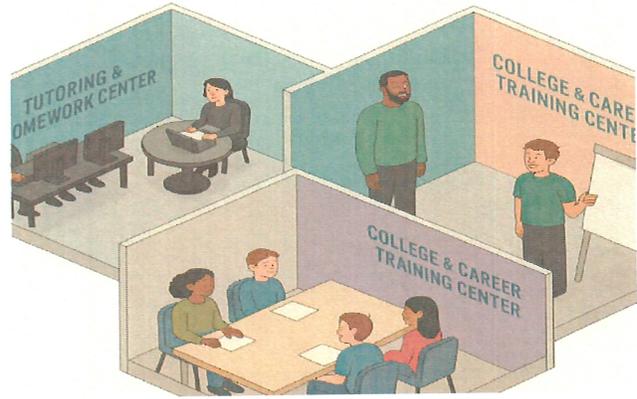


The Teaching Kitchen and Community Garden at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware provide at-risk youth with powerful opportunities to develop STEM-based and life skills in hands-on, engaging ways. In the kitchen, youth learn cooking fundamentals while also exploring science, technology, engineering, and math concepts such as measurements, chemistry of food reactions, nutrition science, and sustainability practices. The community garden adds another layer of experiential learning, teaching biology, environmental science, and agricultural engineering while promoting healthy living and food security. Together, these spaces encourage teamwork, problem-solving, and creativity while building practical skills like meal planning, budgeting, and healthy eating. Beyond academics, youth gain confidence, discipline, and collaboration skills that can be transferred into school, careers, and daily life. For young people who often face barriers to opportunity, the Teaching Kitchen and Community Garden serve as safe, inspiring environments that connect STEM education with real-world application, empowerment, and community impact.

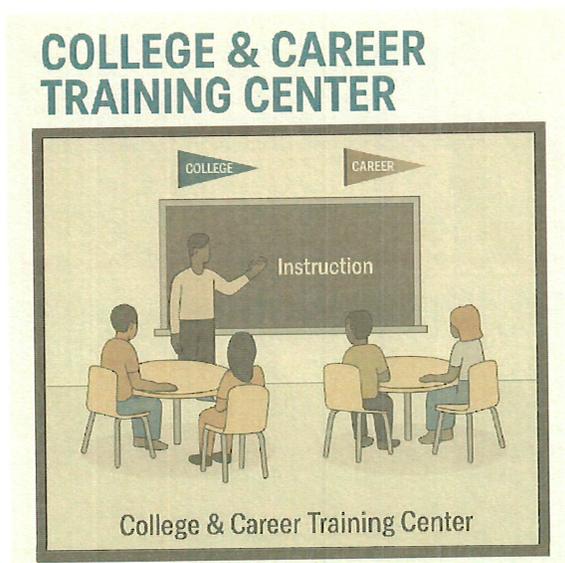
Tutoring & Homework Assistance

Bridging the Education Gap

Tutoring and homework support are essential tools in closing the education gap, especially for students who lack access to academic resources at home. Rigorous research shows that high-dosage tutoring (e.g. 30 minutes or more, multiple times per week, in small groups or one-on-one) can help students catch up by as much as half a school year to a full school year compared to peers without such support. Yet, despite its effectiveness, only about 1 in 10 students nationally receive high-dosage tutoring. In Delaware, the urgency for academic support is particularly acute: the state currently ranks 45th in the nation for education outcomes, with alarming proficiency deficits — for example, 75% of Delaware’s 4th graders are not proficient in reading, and 82% of 8th graders are not proficient in math. Moreover, Delaware ranks near the bottom nationally in academic recovery, placing 49th in math recovery and 47th in reading for the period 2019–2024, meaning students are missing nearly a full year of learning gains.



By offering structured high dosage tutoring and homework assistance within a safe, supervised, and resource-rich environment, we can provide at-risk youth with the individualized instruction, accountability, and confidence they need to stay on grade-level, improve academic outcomes, and overcome systemic barriers.



First-generation college aspirants face unique hurdles: they often lack family knowledge about campus systems, financial aid, academic expectations, or networks to guide them. Nationally, first-generation undergraduates complete bachelor’s degrees at much lower rates—around 24%, compared with approximately 59% for continuing-generation peers. Moreover, though first-generation students represent roughly one-third of U.S. undergraduates, their persistence is more fragile: a greater share leave college without credentials, and their enrollment, retention, and degree attainment rates lag behind those whose parents’ attended college.

In Delaware, only about 60% of high school graduates immediately enroll in college, underscoring the need

for better preparation and support. Additionally, the state continues to confront high remediation rates in college, suggesting many students are not fully prepared for postsecondary coursework.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware can play a pivotal role in this gap by offering college & career readiness offerings—mentorship, academic advising, workshops on FAFSA and financial aid, test prep, resume development, interview practice, college visits, and career exploration. By guiding first-generation students through complex systems, demystifying college norms, and providing consistent support, BBBSDE can help increase their chances of enrollment, retention, and degree completion. Through those programs, first-gen youth gain confidence, planning strategies, and tangible skills, while reducing the systemic disadvantage that often holds them back.

Multifunctional Outdoor Space

A Place to Play, Learn, and Belong

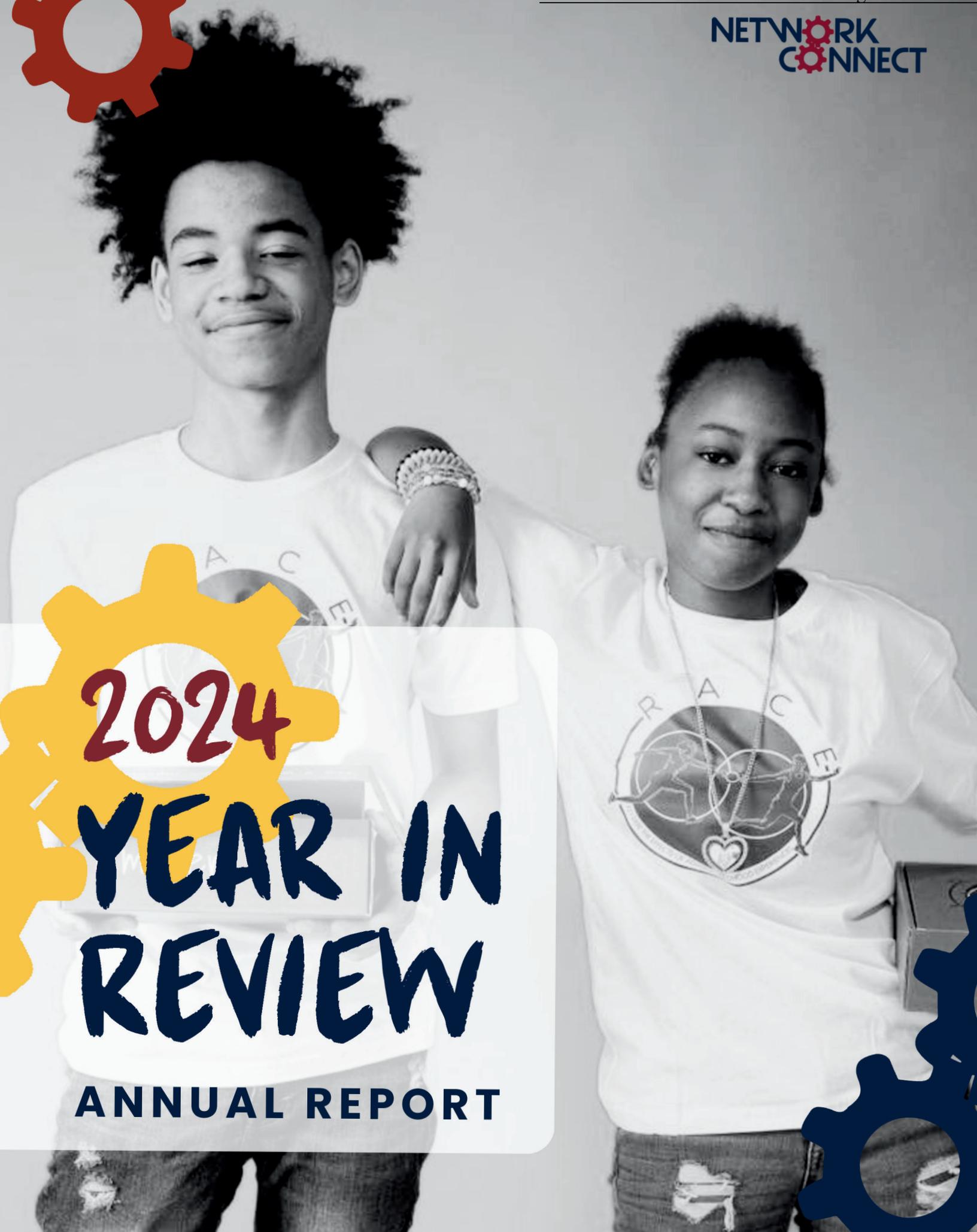
The proposed Youth Engagement Center (YEC) with its **multifunctional sports court, covered picnic pavilions, and natural science playscape & playground area** will serve as an indispensable asset in supporting youth development in a holistic way. The multipurpose court—capable of hosting basketball, pickleball, and other active sports—encourages physical fitness, teamwork, coordination, and healthy competition. The picnic pavilions provide sheltered spaces for mentorship conversations, group gatherings, and outdoor learning. Meanwhile, the natural playscape area blends play with environmental exploration, inviting youth to observe, experiment, and engage with nature through climbing, digging, sensory gardens, and imaginative nature play.

Play is not only recreation—it's fundamental to healthy growth. Decades of research show that free and guided play foster cognitive abilities, emotional regulation, social skills, and resilience. For example, time spent playing has been shown to strengthen self-regulation, which in turn correlates with early reading and math development. In Delaware, state leaders have proposed legislation to reintroduce play-based learning in early grades to support creativity, executive function, and lifelong academic success. By offering these outdoor, active, and discovery-based spaces, the YEC addresses a critical gap: in many under-sourced communities, safe, high-quality play spaces are scarce. This facility will not only nurture physical and mental well-being, but also foster curiosity, teamwork, risk-taking, and a sense of belonging—skills that extend into school success, leadership, and lifelong health.

For more information, about the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware's Youth Enrichment Center please visit, www.bbbsde.org.



2024
YEAR IN
REVIEW
ANNUAL REPORT



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A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Network Connect Community,

As I reflect on the work of Network Connect this past year, one word stands tall: **PERSEVERANCE**. In a time of deep systemic challenges, shifting societal dynamics, and urgent community needs, perseverance is the fuel that keeps us moving. It's more than just endurance; it's the determination to continue advancing, growing, and building even when the path is uncertain. Perseverance is strength in motion, our commitment to pressing forward with courage, purpose, and hope.

This unwavering determination lives at the core of our mission:
Creating community transformation through collective impact.

It's reflected in the tenacity of our Community Wellness Ambassadors, the bold vision of our Future Culture Creators, and the care and consistency of our RACE mentors, staff, and leaders. It informs every partnership, every conversation, and every decision we make. As we pursue our vision - strong, independent, and self-sufficient communities in which everyone thrives - We are guided by our deeply rooted values.

Each day, we ask hard questions:

How do we ensure our youth grow up confident and connected?

How do we preserve community bonds in a tech-driven world?

How do we support healing while addressing the root causes of trauma?

How do we shift systems so everyone, regardless of race, income, or circumstance, can truly thrive?

We don't always have immediate answers. But we do have purpose. We have partnership. And we have the perseverance to keep showing up. Our next chapter requires us to lean into the basics, connection, trust, healing, joy, and ACTION. We know transformation doesn't happen overnight—but with each conversation, each collaboration, and each courageous step, we get closer.

I'm honored to lead this work alongside each of you. Together, we network, to connect, to learn, to grow, and to serve.

With determination and gratitude,

Cierra Hall-Hipkins

Cierra Hall-Hipkins
Founder and CEO

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WHO WE ARE

Network Connect seeks to improve the coordination of youth-serving organizations by building effective partnerships for youth, families, communities, and organizations. For over four years, Network Connect has served hundreds of Delaware's children, youth, and families.

OUR MISSION

Creating community transformation through collective impact.

OUR VISION

Strong, independent, and self-sufficient communities in which everyone thrives.

OUR CORE VALUES

Community

We are local communities.

Integrity

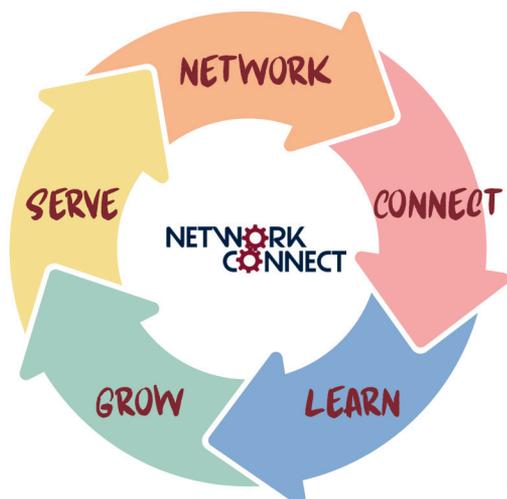
We do what we say we are going to do.

Partnership

We work with others for collective impact.

Respect

We respect and leverage separate realities.



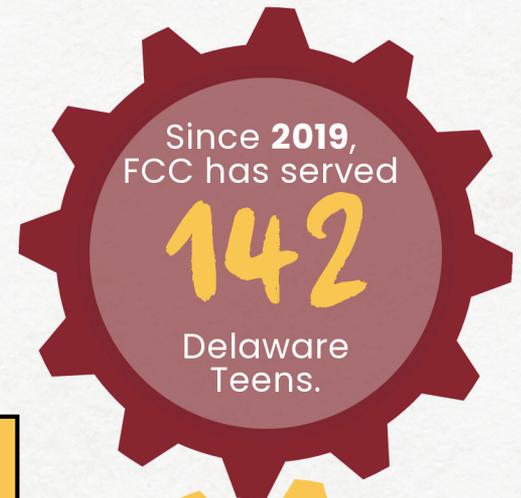
ALL WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

At-a-Glance

Throughout 2024, we expanded NC's reach and impact. With routine programming across New Castle, Kent, and Sussex counties, NC supports individuals, families, neighborhoods, and communities.

PEOPLE SERVED BY OUR CWA PROGRAM

Counties	2022	2023	2024
CWA - New Castle	606	1,169	1,381
CWA - Kent & Sussex	189	685	626



RACE TO WELLNESS
after school and summer camp programming

WILMINGTON STREET TEAM



In total, we serve

16 Zipcodes in Hard-to-Reach areas.

In Delaware, we serve

3 Counties including New Castle, Kent, & Sussex.

ALL WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

New Spaces

We're excited to introduce our new nomad Network Connect locations, expanding our reach to better serve the community. The Kent County Hub and the two new Wilmington Street Team Hubs bring essential resources closer to those who need them most. These new locations enhance accessibility, allowing us to provide direct support, services, and opportunities right where people live and work. By establishing these hubs, we're strengthening our ability to connect with the community, offering a more convenient and impactful way to access the resources necessary for stability, growth, and success.

Whether it's job assistance, housing support, or community programs, these hubs serve as a bridge to opportunity, making it more convenient than ever for people to get the help they need right where they are.



KENT COUNTY HUB

The Kent County Hub at 20 E Division Street is now open, bringing essential resources and support directly to the heart of the community.



WILMINGTON STREET TEAM HUBS

Our Wilmington Street Team Hubs at 914 N Pine Street and 2214 North Market Street serve as neighborhood anchors, connecting people with vital services right where they live and work.



STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

OUR NETWORK



FUTURE CULTURE CREATORS



We are proud to offer our Future Culture Creators, RACE, The Messaging Center, Safe Passage, Recovery Cafe, and Community Well-Being Ambassador programs across all three counties in Delaware, ensuring that individuals and families statewide have access to vital resources and support. With a presence in every county, we are bridging gaps, fostering growth, and making meaningful connections where they matter most.

KENT



FUTURE CULTURE CREATORS



FUTURE CULTURE CREATORS

Future Culture Creators (FCC) is a holistic workforce development program that empowers disengaged youth by building employment skills, self-image, and professionalism. Led by Network Connect with culturally competent facilitation, the program prepares teens to design and lead peer-focused community programming.

NEW CASTLE



Participants engage in a culturally relevant curriculum focused on four key areas: professional development, brand building, civic engagement through design thinking, and hands-on job placement. Using restorative practices, cognitive-behavioral techniques, and group activities, the program fosters leadership, mental wellness, and community accountability. In 2024, Future Culture Creators graduated 65 youth from its Cohorts 8 and 9, equipping them with all the necessary tools to secure employment.



RACE

RACE aims to prevent and reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) through early intervention, family support, and universal youth screening in Delaware and surrounding areas. Partnering with schools and community organizations, we promote preventive strategies aligned with the CDC’s six ACE prevention pillars. Our vision is for all youth across the state of Delaware and its surrounding areas who have experienced ACEs to have access to the mental, physical, and emotional tools they need, both at home and in school. RACE delivers four core programs: after-school programming, summer camps, RACE kits, and RACE Days, each designed to empower and support youth statewide. In 2024, the RACE program expanded its after-school programming to South and East Dover Elementary, reaching 35 new youth in the Dover area.



RECOVERY CAFE

Recovery Café, launched in June 2024 in our Dover office, it’s a community-driven safe space offering long-term support, activities, and resources for people in recovery. Visitors are encouraged to become members and actively contribute to the café community. In the program’s inaugural year, 30+ members joined our Recovery Café program.





COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AMBASSADORS

The **Community Well-Being Ambassadors Initiative (CWA)** is a community-driven, place-based prevention strategy to increase the capacity of individual neighborhoods and communities in Delaware. CWAs promote community well-being and resilience amongst all residents regardless of age. This initiative represents a collective impact approach, utilizing collaboration and resources among various community-based and public organizations in Delaware. CWAs support community members as they combat the daily stress and trauma existing within our communities, with a special emphasis on individuals impacted by the effects of opioids and other stimulant abuse. When experiencing a challenge, a helping hand and an outside perspective can help someone find the starting point or solution to address specific needs. CWAs are members of local Delaware communities (a CWA could be your neighbor or a friend of a friend) and are trained to provide tailored support to individuals, families, and communities in need. In 2024, our Community Well-Being Ambassador program expanded into Sussex County, launching at Cornerstone Community Center, where it continues to thrive today.



WILMINGTON STREET TEAM

The Wilmington Street Team, part of the City's Community Public Safety Initiative, is led by Network Connect and the Center for Structural Equity. The team monitors and responds to community violence by providing intervention services and connecting residents to resources. In 2024, we expanded with a second hub on Market Street and together both hubs made 1,618 resource connections across Wilmington.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

Collaborations, Partnerships, Initiatives, and Events

At Network Connect, we believe collaboration is key to the work we do; when partners combine and leverage their strengths, transformative programs emerge!

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CENTER



We are thrilled to announce our partnership with Cornerstone Community Center, a vital organization in Sussex County that has been instrumental in serving and uplifting the local community. Their dedication to providing essential resources, support, and programs has created a lasting impact, making them an anchor of positive change. Through this partnership, we have been able to engage more deeply with individuals and families, fostering meaningful connections and expanding our reach to those who need it most. We look forward to continuing this collaboration and working together to strengthen and support our community in new and impactful ways.

THE WILMINGTON PAL



Network Connect is proud to partner with Wilmington PAL, a trusted community hub providing a safe, welcoming space for residents. Together, we've hosted free stores, community dinners, and events that foster connection and support. We're grateful for their partnership and look forward to continued collaboration.

MILFORD FOOD BANK



Network Connect is honored to partner with the Milford Food Bank, an organization whose mission aligns closely with our commitment to serving the community and addressing critical needs. Together, we are working to combat food insecurity by providing essential resources to individuals and families who need them most. Through this partnership, we have been able to expand our outreach, ensuring that nutritious food is accessible to those facing hardship. By combining our efforts, we are not only meeting immediate needs but also fostering a stronger, healthier community where no one has to worry about where their next meal will come from.

HIGHMARK



Network Connect is proud to partner with Highmark in a shared mission to improve community health and well-being. Through our collaboration, we have hosted impactful community conversations across the state, addressing potential health disparities and ensuring that individuals have access to vital information about preventive care, healthcare resources, and benefits. These conversations have been instrumental in empowering community members with the knowledge they need to make informed health decisions while also creating space for dialogue about the barriers many face in accessing care. Together, we are working toward a healthier, more informed, and more equitable future for all.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Event and Community Spotlights



RACE CAMP

RACE Camp is a transformative, free summer program designed to provide youth with engaging and interactive activities that help reverse the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Through enriching field trips, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum, and healing-centered activities, campers are given a safe and supportive environment to grow, heal, and thrive. More than just a summer program, RACE Camp is a space for healing, connection, and personal growth—empowering young people with the tools they need to build resilience, develop positive relationships, and experience joy through meaningful experiences.



COMMUNITY SUCCESS STORY

“Where do I begin?? These women have changed my perspective, my self-worth, and MY LIFE. Alyiah has been my angel. I keep her in my prayers. Then Jennine has become an invaluable member of the team.. These women may not realize that they have changed /saved many people's lives, especially my life. I am a college-educated woman. It happens to anyone. Homelessness, worthlessness, and abuse have no prejudice. But these women make us laugh, cry, and most importantly, feel human, leading us to the resources and holding us responsible for our own futures. AMEN”.

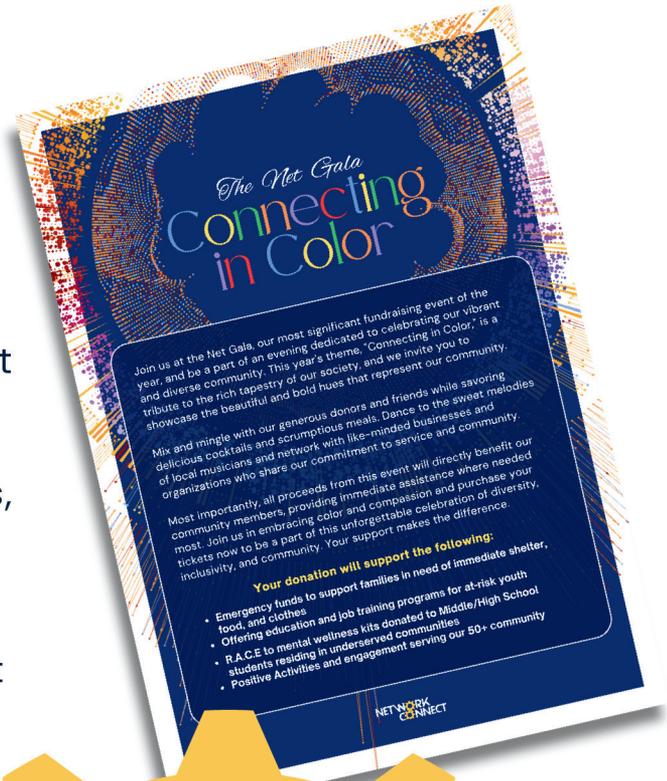
-Recovery Cafe Client



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

2024 "CONNECTING IN COLOR" GALA

On April 20, Network Connect hosted the sold-out Connecting in Color Net Gala at the Community Education Building Atrium. This vibrant evening brought together community members, partners, and supporters for a celebration of culture, creativity, and connection. More than a fundraiser, the gala highlighted the power of unity and diversity while generating vital support for Network Connect's programs, helping us expand opportunities, uplift voices, and drive lasting change.



2025-2027

STRATEGIC PLAN

Network Connect strengthens communities through trusted partnerships, people-centered programs, and local leadership. At the heart of Network Connect is a commitment to people and place. We believe strong communities are built through deep local relationships, shared accountability, and meaningful collaboration.

Our work is grounded in integrity, shaped by listening and learning, and focused on real impact. We respect diverse lived experiences, invest in individual growth, and promote environments where everyone is valued, supported, and empowered to lead.



OUR STRATEGIC GOALS



Leadership – Grow the people and systems that guide our mission.

Strengthen leadership at all levels through training, succession planning, and partnerships. Foster a culture of clear communication, accountability, and inclusive governance. Share our impact through storytelling, marketing, and outreach to partners and funders.



Management – Improve how we work, together.

Review processes regularly to increase efficiency and identify improvements. Recognize and celebrate staff through awards and milestones. Upgrade systems and documentation to support smooth operations.



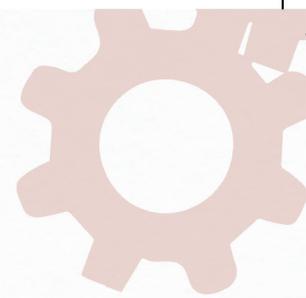
Financial Strength – Secure long-term resources to sustain our work.

Maintain financial transparency and achieve clean audits annually
Grow unrestricted and program-specific funding across Delaware and beyond
Expand our donor and sponsor base through digital engagement and outreach



Programs & Services – Deliver high-impact services in our communities.

Expand programs across vulnerable communities using a phased approach. Evaluate programs regularly to align services with community needs. Build pathways for community members to grow from participants into volunteers/staff.



WHAT'S NEXT?

2025 Preview of What's to Come



GROW

Continuing to grow our programs to provide quality services in all 3 counties.



STRATEGIZE

Continuing strategic work across community coalitions and collaborations.



CELEBRATE

In 2025, we celebrate our 7th Anniversary! Save the date and Celebrate with us!

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

COLLECTIVE IMPACT PARTNERS



SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS



WE ARE THE NETWORK
CONNECTING COMMUNITIES.

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SPR

Skills for Psychological Recovery

A Toolkit for Coping, Healing, and Rebuilding after Trauma.

What is **SPR** ?

Skills for Psychological Recovery (SPR) is an evidence-informed, skills-based approach designed to help individuals and communities manage distress and strengthen their ability to recover after trauma, crisis, or disaster. SPR is flexible and can be adapted for use by professionals, peer support specialists, or community leaders.

Core Skills in **SPR**:

- 1. Gathering Information & Prioritizing Needs**
A Toolkit for Coping, Healing, and Rebuilding after Trauma.
- 2. Promoting Positive Activities**
Re-engage in meaningful and enjoyable daily activities that promote well-being and routine.
- 3. Building Problem-Solving Skills**
Break down overwhelming problems into manageable steps and create achievable action plans.
- 4. Managing Reactions**
Learn strategies to cope with intense emotions, physical symptoms, and trauma-related responses.
- 5. Promoting Helpful Thinking**
Identify unhelpful thought patterns and practice more realistic, supportive thinking.
- 6. Rebuilding Healthy Social Connections**
Strengthen existing support networks and foster new, positive relationships.

Who can use **SPR** ?

SPR can be delivered by trained **professionals** or **paraprofessionals** in various settings—such as schools, shelters, clinics, or community centers—and is suitable for youth, adults, and families. **Network Connect is the only organization in Delaware that is certified in teaching SPR skills.**

SCAN
HERE!

